



# MASSP State Coordinator NEWS

MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS SEPT/ OCT 12

## UPDATES FROM CHRISTINE HANDY-COLLINS

On June 27, 2012, Melissa Shindel and I visited with Maryland State Legislators on Capitol Hill as part of the NASSP State Coordinators Advocacy Conference and President's Elect Orientation. We met with representatives from Senator Barbara Mikulski, Representative Elijah Cummings, and Senator Benjamin Cardin's offices and we actually met with Representative Chris Van Hollen. Topics of discussion included graduation rates, literacy and the LEARN Act, the Striving Readers Program, Enhancing Education through Technology, and funding for professional development for school leaders.



Christine Handy-Collins, Rep. Chris Van Hollen, Melissa Schindel, and Arthur Linder (DC SC).

We need your help to prevent funding cuts that will affect all schools across the country. We are working hard to prevent something called sequestration-drastic, across-the-board cuts to education and other federal programs scheduled to occur on January 2, 2013. Sequestration-which is a result of the Budget Control Act approved by Congress in August 2011-would cut Department of Education funding by over 8%, jeopardizing nearly 90,000 education jobs and dozens of critical federal programs that help our students succeed. Title I grants would be cut by \$1.2 billion, hurting 1.8 million students and eliminating 16,100 jobs, and IDEA grants would be cut by \$973 million, impacting 495,000 children with disabilities and eliminating 12,600 jobs. Please take 2 minutes to go to NASSP's Principal's Legislative Action Center and send a form letter to your legislators urging them to prevent sequestration, and instead to support policies that find a balanced approach to solving our nation's finances.

### WEBSITES

Please join the Grassroots Network and PLAC:

<http://www.edweb.net/federalgrassroots>

PLAC- Principal's Legislative Action Center (on NASSP site under legislation)

Other recommendations:

[Www.all4ed.org](http://www.all4ed.org)—Alliance for Excellent Education

[Www.edWeb.net](http://www.edWeb.net)— Social Network for Educators

### SHARE

**Be sure to share the websites to the left with your colleagues. We would like to get all of our members to join the Grassroots Network. Let's have Maryland lead the nation. The PLAC is a valuable tool on the NASSP website. It makes it easier to let your voice be heard by your representatives in both the Senate and the House as well as state legislators.**

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